AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by inserting the following section headings before their respective sections:

(a) Page 1, line 2:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to methods of interpreting coded information carriers and to methods of processing the response of such carriers to an interrogating magnetic field.

(b) Page 1, line 7:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In certain types of human and machine-readable information-bearing label, a set of elements is used to represent the information contained in the label. This representation may be made by varying the characteristics of the elements comprising the label, and also by the position in which the label elements are placed. Reading apparatus senses the characteristics and placement of the elements in order to decode the information contained within the label. The elements in the label are sequentially scanned, to discover the presence of the constituent elements and to measure their characteristics and position and thence to decode the information contained by the label.

(c) Page 1, line 21:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This application describes label coding methods by which information represented on such a label can be decoded. Typical label embodiments are where the label is manufactured from a plurality of magnetically active elements supported on a substrate. Information is coded by controlling the relative positions. Independent control of the physical properties of the elements, such as shape may also be used.

(d) Page 3, line 21:

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a better understanding of the present invention and to show how the same maybe carried into effect, reference will now be made by way of example to the accompanying drawings in which:

(e) Page 4, line 18:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig 1a shows a plan view of a label 1 comprising a plurality of magnetic elements 2. The elements are made out of high permeability, low coercivity magnetic thin film material such as Atalante manufactured by IST(Belgium). In this particular example the elements are substantially equal in size and have dimensions of 1mmx1.5mm. The easy axis of the material is arranged so as to be parallel with the longitudinal axis of the label.